

6 October 1947

Mr. Peyton Ford
Assistant Attorney General
Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Ford:

This is in answer to your letter of September 18 concerning a case involving a question of whether or not the Japanese Navy had any forces within striking distance of the southeast Alaska coast during the period January 1 - 13, 1942, inclusive.

Our Foreign Documents Branch has made a complete search of all of the captured Japanese documents in its files. Although certain of these documents concern the disposition of the Japanese Navy during the period under discussion, there is no indication in any of them that the Japanese Navy had any air, surface, or submarine forces within striking distance of the southeast Alaska coast at that time. However, it should be noted that the Foreign Documents Branch probably does not have all Japanese Naval files. In any event, we do not believe that the findings of the Foreign Documents Branch should be regarded as conclusive.

If we may be of further assistance to you in any method at our disposal we should be glad to oblige.

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Acting Chief, Foreign Documents Branch
FROM : Deputy Assistant Director for Operations
SUBJECT: Letter from Assistant Attorney General

DATE: 22 September 1947

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The attached letter is being forwarded to your office for comment. These comments will then be coordinated with the General Counsel before a reply is prepared. Please forward your comments to this office as soon as possible.

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GEORGE G. CAREY /

Deputy Assistant Director
Office of Operations

Attachment: Letter from
Mr. P. Ford
Asst. Attorney
General - 18/9
re: Libby, McNeill & Libby vs.
United States of America

FOREIGN DOCUMENTS BRANCH


1 October 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR DEPUTY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS

SUBJECT: Japanese Navy forces off Alaska during January 1 - 13, 1942

1. In response to memorandum dated 22 September, 1947, from the Deputy Assistant Director for Operations with reference to letter from Assistant Attorney General to Admiral Hillenkoeter, dated 18 September, 1947, no information is available in Foreign Documents Branch on any Japanese submarines, surface vessels or aircraft within striking distance of the southeast Alaska coast during the period January 1 - 13 (inclusive), 1942.

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[Acting] Chief,
Foreign Documents Branch

Enclosures: Memorandum from Deputy Asst.
Director for Operations, 22/9/47.
Letter from Asst. Attorney General,
18/9/47, re: Libby, McNeill
Libby vs. USA